

**Philadelphia Bar Association
Board of Governors
June 25, 2009**

The meeting called to order at 4:07 p.m. by the Chair Gaetan Alfano. Before the meeting started, there was discussion and an informal vote by the Board that the minutes will reflect all persons in attendance, and specify who was there in a voting capacity.

The Chair requested that the Minutes of the May 28, 2009 Minutes be approved. The minutes were approved. Treasurer Joe Prim presented the Treasurer's report through the end of May. As of now, the dues are ahead of budget. The Association is a little under budget on expenses. The Treasurer's report was moved, seconded, and accepted.

Chancellor Sayde Ladov reported that Joanne Epps received the Sandra Day O'Connor award and gave the Higginbotham Lecture at the June Quarterly Luncheon. Chancellor Ladov recognized Danielle Banks and Kim Allegant, co chairs of the Women in the Profession Committee for their fine work. Chancellor Ladov reported that a Bench Bar website has been launched and the price of the Bench Bar is lower than last year. Chancellor Ladov announced there would be many July events including a networking event of Criminal Bar Section, Lawyers in Transition event, a reception by Friends of Farmworkers at the Moore College of Art, and a Public Interest Section reception. Chancellor Ladov recently attended a reception for summer law clerks along with other bar leaders. Chancellor Ladov advised the Board that August 4 will be Gay night at the Phillies Ballpark and Brian Sims will throw out the first ball. She advised everyone to go to the website for Gallop Law.org to get tickets. Chancellor Ladov also announced there will be a Diversity Summit in September with a great panel.

Chancellor Ladov further advised that the Association continues to work on funding for the First Judicial District, advocating thru City council, and continuing to push the Governor with regard to the budget.

Chancellor advised that Sharmane Matlock Turner resigned from the Judicial Commission and someone has to be appointed to fill the position. She nominated Janet Bushman, a retired union negotiator who will bring an interesting perspective. Upon motion made and seconded, the appointment was approved.

Martha Phan then gave a presentation on Association's Communications and Marketing Department. She introduced the staff: Jeff Lyons, senior managing editor, Wesley Terry, web manager, Michele Phan, Communications Manager and staff liaison to YLD. The Association's print publications include The Philadelphia Lawyer, Bar Reporter, The Legal Directory, (which includes an on line version), Bar Reporter Online on Mondays and Thursdays, and a new publication called Upon Further Review, for articles of 500 to 700 words. There is also an e Line that goes out to the YLD list serve.

Martha Phan discussed the Association website. The Association has a section on the web for "Lawyers in Transition." With regard to the Chancellor page, they have

added all of Chancellor Ladov's letters and appearances. Every section has a web presence. The Association has been working closely with the Bar Foundation which has launched a new website, using an outside developer. With regard to social media, there is a page on Facebook launched thru YLD and Martha Phan and her staff are very carefully looking at it. They will be developing some criteria with regard to social media.

There are many major events that Martha Phan and her staff work on as well such as brochures and key initiatives such as the Judicial Commission. The department also works very hard on the placement of Editorials in the Philadelphia Inquirer and with radio and TV as well. Executive Director Ken Shear read an email from the Executive Director of the Columbus Bar Association thanking the Association on its excellent media department.

The Chair recognized Joe Sullivan, Gideon Task Force co-chair, to present on the status of Civil Gideon Task Force. Andy Susko also is co-chair of the Task Force. A Resolution in support of this work was passed by the Board of Governors in May. Termination of parental rights or housing or basic substance being at risk was agreed to be studied initially. The Task Force has formed 5 working groups. Everyone is very enthusiastic.

The Chair then recognized Ethan Fogel to report on the activities of the Landlord Tenant Mediation Program, which is part of the work of the Gideon Task Force. Judge Lisa Rau convened a group and asked Ethan and Joe Sullivan to become involved. Most landlord tenant matters start in Municipal Court and then there is an automatic appeal right to the Court of Common Pleas with a trial de novo. Ethan Fogel reported that there are a large percentage of parties that do not have counsel. Now there will be opportunity for mandatory mediation. There is a four and a half month lag time after appeal and a goal is to have mediation occur towards the end of this time. Transactional lawyers may be targeted to assist in negotiating. This would also give lawyers an opportunity to do pro bono work on a limited basis. Chancellor Ladov and other bar leaders have met with the President of the Municipal Court who is supportive of this Mediation Program They have not started recruiting volunteers yet but plan to contact State Civil and other sections. A suggestion was made by Richard Seidel to urge Board members to volunteer as part of their pro bono service obligation and for the Board to consider whether a Resolution would be in order to amend the pro bono requirements for Board members to include such cases.

The Chair recognized Wesley Payne, co-chair of the Military Affairs Committee to present a report. He recruited David Prewitt to enlist other members of the Committee. They did a homeless advocacy project with HAP There were 8 attorneys who signed up to become pro bono advocates in front of the Veterans administration. They also signed up 30 new cases for Veterans. They would like to do more outreach next year. They also will work as ombudsman with returning troops who are coming back to a different economy when they left their jobs. Chancellor Ladov praised the work of this Committee.

Brian Sims reminded everyone that Pro Bono forms are due June 30.

Kathleen Wilkinson announced the award of excellence received by the First Judicial District by the National Judicial College during its recent visit to Philadelphia to present an Alternative Dispute Resolution Course.

Brian Chacker, YLD Chair, announced that on July 16, at World Café Live there would be a Lallapaloza. On July 27 there will be “YLD Live” asking what more YLD can do for young lawyers.

Upon there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen D. Wilkinson
Secretary

Board of Governors
Attendance
June 25, 2009

Present:

Sayde J. Ladov
Kathleen Wilkinson
Joseph Prim

Scott Cooper
Sophia Lee
Richard Seidel

Rudolph Garcia
Wesley Payne
Gaetan Alfano

Stacy Tees
Jeffrey Campolongo
Michael Hayes
Danielle Banks
Troy Wilson
Patricia Dubin
Joseph Prim
Jacqueline Segal

Michael Berkowitz
Michael Schaffer
Mehrin-Masud-Elias
Stephanie Resnick
Laura Feldman
David Prewitt
Regina Foley
Maria Feeley

Jeffrey Gross
Sean Sullivan
Brian Chacker
Mary Platt
Richard Harris
Grace Sweeney
Judith Stein
Grace Manno

Kenneth Shear
Andre Dennis

Lyndora Patterson Tiller
John Savoth

Ella Herbin

Absent:

Rosemary Pinto
A. Michael Pratt
Eric Milby
Daniel Blickman

Karen Detamore
Albertine DuFrayne
Christine Paul